



PACE Setter

PACIFIC AUTISM CENTER for EDUCATION

Connect. Support. Educate.

Save the Date



An Enchanted Evening

**Seventh Annual Gala & Auction
Sunday, November 9th, 2008**

**For more information, please contact us:
408.245.3400**

PACE Highlight

As many of you may know, maintaining an established routine is often an important objective for an individual with autism. PACE meets that need by providing many skilled employees to help maintain a semblance of routine and balance in our clients lives. Troy is one of the employees that exemplifies that skill every day.

Troy's foray into the world of special needs individuals began at home with his daughter, Portia, who is visually impaired. Troy began volunteering at Portia's school and was quickly convinced to take a permanent job there by school staff. This led to 13 years with the Santa Clara Office of Education and three years at Del Mar High School. Once he was fully immersed in the field of special needs, Troy went back to school and earned his BA in Special Education from the

University of San Francisco. A former PACE employee knew Troy from working together and convinced him to join us here at PACE. And, after seven and a half years of dedicated service to PACE, we are certainly fortunate he made the move.

Troy started at PACE as an instructional aide at the PACE School. Working with the same student for six years, Troy was able to connect with him on a personal level and continues to assist him outside of PACE with home respite care. After 6 years at the school, Troy decided he was ready for a new challenge and moved on to help establish the new Adult Day Program at PACE where he currently remains.

"I enjoy helping our clients get out into the community," says Troy. "Every client has specific goals, and I love to help them achieve those goals."

Anne Chen, Adult Day Program coordinator, says of Troy, "He comes in every day with a great attitude. And the parents of our clients love him because of his intense attention toward each individual and their specific needs."

In his private life, Troy keeps quite busy with five children. Portia, now 18, just graduated from high school, Simone, 16, is an avid basketball player, Devon, 9, plays soccer, and Darius, 4, and Abram, 6 mo., have yet to decide what their hobbies will be.

PACE clients and students succeed every day because of dedicated staff like Troy. Thank you, Troy!



Troy with Adult Day Program clients

Creating Connections

Introductory workshop on autism led by

Marcia Goldman, M.A.

PACE Education Director

**Tuesday, September 9th,
6pm to 8:30pm**

PACE School

**1880 Pruneridge Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050
\$50/person or \$75/for two**

In this workshop participants will learn:

- The definition and history of autism
- The most effective practices for helping autistic children "rejoin" the world
- Educational and therapeutic practices that focus on relating, communicating and thinking

For more information, call 408-245-3400 or www.pacificautism.org

Intel Gives Back to the Community

Recently, in an effort to celebrate 40 years in business, Intel Corporation pledged to donate 1,000,000 volunteer hours to the surrounding communities, and PACE was one of the lucky recipients!

This past May, nearly 70 Intel volunteers donated their time to help us with multiple projects around our property. In the hours the Intel volunteers were here, they landscaped an area in the farthest corner of our property to prepare it for an employee area that will eventually house a picnic table. They also cleared ivy, cut back trees and raked the entire side of our building to allow more room for our students and aides to walk at breaks. On the side of the building closest to

the entrance, the volunteers cleared more ivy to make way for the planter boxes they built for our students garden. The planter boxes are now home to tomatoes, lettuce, and many other lovely plants that our teachers, therapists and students tend. We've even continued the venture by adding a few more planter boxes to make room for more student and teacher projects.



Intel Volunteers

Autism News

This June, the Autism statistics for 2007 were made available to the public through the California Department of Education's (CDE) DataQuest database and the California Department of Developmental Services. The statistics reflect an alarming increase in the cases of Autism in California.

Since 1993, the California Department of Developmental Services has seen an Autism increase of 652%. And in the period from 2000 to 2007, the Autism ratio for California student enrollment has increased from 1:431 to 1:135, which is higher than the national statistic of 1:150. On a local level, Santa Clara County schools have seen an increase in Autism of 17% annually since 2000. And one out of every 109 students in San Mateo County receive special education services for Autism.

In the seven year period from 2000 to 2007, the average annual increase in Autism rates has ranged from 13% to 20% across the 6 counties as shown in the following table. During that same period, the annual student enrollment has remained effectively flat or slightly declining. While the national statistic for Autism is widely quoted at 1:150, the Bay Area schools tend to operate at the national statistic or below.

County	2000 to 2007 Cumulative Increase in Autism	Average Annual Student Autism Increase	Average Annual Student Enrollment Increase
Santa Clara	206%	17%	0.3%
San Mateo	246%	19%	-0.3%
Santa Cruz	246%	20%	-0.9%
San Francisco	125%	12%	-1.3%
Alameda	179%	16%	-0.4%
Marin	133%	13%	0.2%
California	229%	19%	0.5%

From the Executive Director's Desk

Our methodology at PACE can be summed up in three simple words "connect, support, educate." With the goal of making a connection with every one of our clients we strive to break down the barriers that often get in the way to effective communication. While less than 20% of all communication is dependent upon speech, we often lose sight of everything else due to our dependence on verbal language. For many in the Autism realm, speech is not an option. In fact, at PACE school more than 70% of our students are non-verbal. For our staff at PACE who work hard to build meaningful connections with these individuals, it's critical to seek out other methods for self expression. Recently PACE embarked upon two unique collaborations to help develop creative ways to reach out to our non-verbal students.



Through a partnership with the Community School of Music and Art (CSMA), PACE will begin a special honors art program to start in the Fall in conjunction with two other neighboring Autism schools. All three schools serve students in the K-12 age range who are affected by Autism and similar developmental disabilities. This collaborative program will bring our agencies together to share ideas and concepts on how to engage students affected by Autism into the arts. The focus will be on incorporating art as a vehicle for self-expression. Our ultimate goal is to help our students develop an appreciation for the artistic process, explore new mediums of expression, develop transferable skills and expand social experiences.

At the same time, PACE has developed a partnership with the drama department of Santa Clara University to look at using drama modeling to help PACE staff discover new and imaginative means of communicating with their students. By shifting the staff's perspectives and using alternative methods of expression, creative new avenues for interaction can be developed and translated into communication building blocks for our students. Finding the right creative blend of expression can open up the world of communication for our students and give them the tools they need to interact with those around them.

Kurt Ohlfs
Executive Director

PACE Comedy Hour

Why did the duck throw butter out the window? He wanted to see butterfly!!

Smiles and laughter abounded at the first PACE Comedy Show this past April. With our spectacular host, Nicholas, and many of the PACE students debuting their jokes, the show was a smashing success. From knock-knock jokes to stories and songs, there was never dull moment. There are definitely a few budding comedians in our student body. We're already looking forward to an encore performance next year.



PACE student and Comedy Hour host, Nicholas

Matranga House Birthday Celebration

Long time Matranga house resident, Asya, recently celebrated her 40th birthday at a party thrown in her honor. Staff and residents from other PACE homes joined in the festivities that included a delicious buffet, a princess cake and musical entertainment provided by Matranga House's favorite musician, Asya's Dad.



Birthday girl, Asya, and Mahalo House resident, David, dancing at the birthday festivities

Community Partners



Established in 1957, the Summit League was founded by three former Junior Leaguers residing in Saratoga who wished to create a woman's service group. Today, the Summit League boasts over 50 active and 60 sustaining members, and is committed to raising funds to support education, health, welfare and the arts. Over the past 50 years more than \$1 million has been raised to support non-profit, charitable organizations in the Santa Clara Valley. The list of past recipients of Summit League support includes (among many others): A Place for Teens, Bring Me a Book Foundation, Downtown College Prep, Eastfield Ming Quong, Good Samaritan Hospital, Hospice of the Valley, Invision, San Jose Museum of Art, Special Olympics and now PACE!

In the Spring of 2007 PACE was invited to submit an application for Summit League funding and we were delighted when we were asked to be one of three agencies to make a presentation about PACE Early Intervention to Summit League members. We were subsequently thrilled to hear that PACE had been selected to be the 2009 grant recipient. Funds raised by the Summit League efforts will go directly to the PACE Early Intervention program where it will support the development and staffing of a much needed Parent Resource Center as well as specialized arts,

music and movement programming for our littlest clients. According to League President, Jan Willoughby, "The Summit League is so pleased to have selected PACE to be our recipient this year. The statistics on autism are staggering, and we are honored to work with PACE to help children and families facing this lifelong developmental disorder. We are particularly excited to help with the Early Intervention Program to provide support and educational services to families as soon after diagnosis as possible. We look forward to helping PACE make a difference in the lives of children with autism."



PACE Executive Director, Kurt Ohlfs, speaking at the Summit League Event

As this year's Summit League partner the staff at PACE has had the privilege of getting to know this outstanding group of woman who are committed not only to raising funds, but to becoming engaged with the groups they support. Summit League members have toured our facility, met with our staff, and watched our programs in action. Recently PACE

Executive staff and Board president Kati Miller were invited to join the Summit League membership at their kick-off event, an exclusive tour of the Old Grandview Ranch, a spectacular estate situated high in the Saratoga Hills with a stunning view of the Santa Clara Valley. Commented Kati Miller: "It was a pleasure to meet this extremely dedicated group of women who are passionate about giving back to their community. It is truly an honor for PACE to have been chosen as their 2009 grant recipient."

The Summit League's biennial fundraising event, "Home for the Holidays," is scheduled for Thursday, December 4 and Friday, December 5 and features charming homes in Los Gatos and Saratoga that have been professionally decorated for the festive season. Advance tickets are \$40 and \$45 at the door. Detailed information will be available in the Fall. Proceeds from the event will support PACE. We hope we'll see you there!

For more information about the Summit League go to www.summit-league.org.



Summit League members

Do you work for a business or belong to an organization that would like to learn more about autism? PACE staff would love to come make a presentation to your group. Contact Karen Kennan at 408.625.6176 or karenkennan@pacificautionism.org.

How You Can Help

You can make a difference in someone's life. Contributions to PACE support programs and services that help our clients realize their full potential. Please consider making a donation in one of the following ways:

- Secure online donations can be made directly to PACE by accessing our website at www.pacificautionism.org.
- Donate by mail by sending your contributions to PACE, 1880 Pruneridge Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050.
- Donate by telephone by calling 408-245-3400 and using your credit card to make a contribution.
- Double your gift with an employee matching gift contribution.



Buy or Sell on EBay to help support PACE!!

10% to 100% of each item auctioned will be donated to PACE.



Support PACE by shopping online

Maatiam helps non-profit organizations to raise funds at no cost to both the organization and its supporters.

www.maatiam.com

A Night to Remember

Along with Spring comes a few rites of passage: spring break, graduation and, of course, prom. This June, the second annual PACE Prom took place at the PACE school.

Seventy-five attendees packed the house. In addition to about 20 PACE students, family members, friends and staff ushered in the celebration. Upon arrival, guests were led down a red carpet to the fully decked out, multi-purpose room. Beautiful stars, balloons and lights adorned the room, thanks to assistance from PACE staff and the McKinney family.

"The prom brought out the fun side in most everyone," says Iris Weiss, PACE teacher. "Anand, a student who is usually reserved and shy was dancing with everyone non-stop. He was smiling and dancing the whole night. He was crowned prom king."



PACE student, Steven, dancing to the music

The DJ led the crowd in vibrant, sing-a-long dances, including the Macarena, the YMCA and the ever-popular Chicken Dance. Room three was stocked with tasty treats and libations for the tired dancers. And let's not forget about room

six, which was set up with a professional photo backdrop for formal prom pictures. No detail was left unchecked.

The night will long be remembered by everyone who attended.

Congratulations Graduates

This June we congratulated three of our PACE students on their graduation from our school program: Larry, Daniel and Joe.

Larry and Daniel are on their way to Adult Day Programs in the local area. We will continue to see Joe around as he will be moving on to the Adult Day Program here at PACE. We are proud of their achievements, but sad to see them go.



PACE graduate Daniel and his family

Congratulations and good luck!

Great Givers

by Karen Kennan

As a non-profit agency PACE receives support from the community in many forms. Generous financial contributions, donations of in-kind goods and services and volunteer assistance are just a few of the ways PACE is supported by the community at large. In this issue of PACE Setter we are pleased to highlight the Sobrato Family Foundation which has chosen to commit its resources to build and strengthen community-based non-profits like PACE so that they can more fully accomplish their mission.

With their commitment to "Investing in People and Places", the Sobrato Family Foundation has generously been supporting the local non-profit community for over ten years. Created in the 1990s, the Family Foundation is one of two foundations created by the Sobratos to formalize their commitment to share their success with the communities in which their real estate development business had thrived for 50 years. The Foundation exists to provide capital that

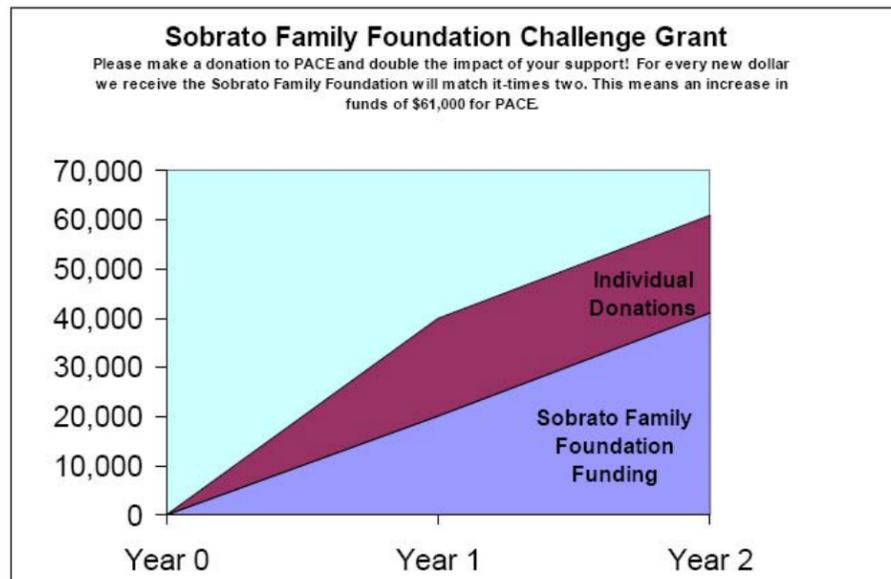
supports nonprofits 'capacity to deliver services, achieve their community mission and strengthen the local community. The Foundation's mission is to create and sustain a vibrant and healthy community where all Silicon Valley residents have

equal opportunity to live, work and be enriched. To accomplish its purpose, the Foundation invests in strong community-based non-profits that promote self-reliance and economic independence and positively contribute to the quality

of life for economically, physically and emotionally challenged individuals.

In the winter of this year, after going through a rigorous and competitive selection process, PACE was selected by the Sobrato Family Foundation to receive a 2:1 Challenge Grant totaling up to \$41,000 over a two year period. This means that if PACE raises \$20,000 in new or increased donations from community members in 2008, the Foundation will match and double those donations and provide a second year of funding of \$21,000. The end result is an additional \$61,000 of new funding for PACE over two years!

We invite you to join the Sobrato Family Foundation and invest in the Pacific Autism Center for Education during this window of time when your contribution can count for even more. All new or increased contributions received during the 2008 calendar year will be matched 100% by the Challenge Grant.



Turn a Wish Into Reality: PACE Wishlist

Leather or vinyl couches
Books and dvd's for school library
Weighted blankets/vests

Arts and crafts supplies
Gardening tools
Computer learning software

Alternative Augmentative
Communication Devices



To donate an item, contact PACE at 408-245-3400 or development@pacificautism.org

Employee Corner

by Veronica Rodriguez

PACE would like to announce the greatest and latest additions to our growing team of dedicated professionals:

March

Stefanie Warner – Occupational Therapist
Jakie Marolerosian – Instructional Specialist
Ashley Dahl – ECSE Teacher Intern
Maria Simons – Direct Care Staff
Tony Benavidez – Direct Care Staff

April

Sarah Stienbach – Special Education Teacher Intern
Robert Zafairipour – Instructional Specialist
Pepito Mustapha – Direct Care Staff
Munda Moiwa – Direct Care Staff

June

Adama Kamara – Direct Care Staff
Alexander Solodyna – Developmental Therapist
Allison Silvius – Developmental Therapist
Leanne Iglessas – Developmental Therapist
Allison Gaughan – Occupational Therapist
Terri Wells – Direct Care Staff
Natalie Ross – Instructional Specialist
Paloma Cano – Instructional Specialist
Daniel Quintana – Instructional Specialist

May

Tiffany Ma – Instructional Specialist
Shuan Geronimo – Instructional Specialist
Diana Vu – Instructional Specialist
Lailani Reyes – Instructional Specialist
Irene Oliva – Instructional Specialist
Merceded Ragadio – Direct Care Staff
Joeyann Baleva – Direct Care Staff
Nicholas Nunez – Instructional Specialist

Coming soon!

Open Enrollment will take effect August 1, 2008. All benefit changes must take place by July 20, 2008. Come see HR if you missed the open enrollment meeting for an explanation of the changes to our benefits.

Save the Date! August 1, 2008 PACE is having our 1st annual staff summer (holiday) party. Come join the fun. If you have not received your invitation please contact HR, but if you have, don't forget to RSVP by July 23, 2008!

Did you know that PACE has a Social Committee! The social committee is the group responsible for planning all PACE employee events. If you would like to be involved please contact Michelle or Veronica to receive more information.

Join the PACE Team! Open PACE positions:

Instructional Specialist – Pre-school and School
Occupational Therapist
Speech Language Pathologist (fully credentialed)
Special Education Teacher
Developmental Therapists

Thank you to all PACE employees for making PACE such a great place to work!

Thank you for your support

PACE is supported by the San Andreas Regional Center (SARC) and the California Department of Education. Additional grants and donations from local government agencies, community-based organizations, businesses and individuals make it possible for PACE to provide exceptional care for clients in our school, early intervention program, vocational program and residential homes.

As we come to the end of our fiscal year, we'd like to thank the following corporate and foundation donors for their generous financial support in 2007-2008*:

Corporate Sponsors

- Alliant
- Berliner Cohen
- Bill Gould Design
- CBIZ
- Comerica Bank
- Escher Family Fund
- Gallina
- Gilfix & La Poll Associates
- Hopkins & Carley A Law Corporation
- Liberty Benefit Insurance Services
- Links for Life
- Santa Clara Valley National Bank
- TBI Construction and Management
- The Zenith

Foundations

- BEA Foundation
- Best Buy
- Five Bridges Foundation
- Flora Family Foundation
- Jewish Community Endowment Fund
- Quota International
- Sandisk Corporation Foundation
- SAP Labs
- Sobrato Family Foundation
- United Way Silicon Valley

In-Kind Corporate Support of Products or Services

- BAE Systems
- Hitachi State Farm
- Ikon
- Intel
- JP Graphics
- La Patisserie
- NBC 11
- Nordstrom
- Peet's Coffee
- San Jose Magazine
- Sandisk
- Starbucks Coffee
- Synopsis
- The Donut Wheel
- The Flint Center

Community Partners

- Liz Pollard, Alain Pinel Realtors
- The Giving Tree
- Geoff and Carla Davis

*Supporters as of June 30, 2008

Additional thanks to all our generous in-kind donors, to those who contribute restricted funds in support of our programs, and to all of our individual contributors of any amount. Your support allows us to fulfill our mission.

Additional Ways You Can Support PACE

- Name PACE as a beneficiary in a will or life insurance policy and make a gift of tangible property, securities or real estate. Donors who are interested in leaving a legacy through a planned gift should consult their attorney or professional financial advisor.
- E-Scrip is one of the easiest ways to contribute to PACE. Purchases are tracked through your registered credit card. Register on line at: www.eScrip.com, go to "sign up," and follow the instructions. Our account for eScrip is #472692. PACE will receive a percentage of your purchases when using their preferred merchants.
- Make a contribution through a workplace giving program. If you would like to include PACE in your workplace giving options, please contact Karen Kennan at 408-625-6176.
- Use Yahoo sponsored GoodSearch.com as your new search engine and by designating PACE as your charity, Yahoo will donate half its advertising revenue to PACE. www.goodsearch.com
- Check out the shops online using the new shopping mall, www.goodshop.com, and by designating PACE as your charity, we will receive up to 37% on the total of your purchases.
- Donate your old vehicle to Donate for Charity, a company that processes vehicle donations for non-profit organizations. Call 866-392-4483 or use their website: <http://www.donateforcharity.com/jumpform.html>. Donate for Charity handles all the details and distributes the net proceeds to PACE!
- A donation made in someone's honor is a lovely way to acknowledge someone special and also support PACE.

PACE is a 501C(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions to PACE are tax-deductible as specified in the current tax laws. The Tax ID for PACE is 77-0259858.

PACE Board of Directors

- Kati Miller, President
- David Piazza, Vice President
- Geoff Davis, Treasurer
- Valerie Burniece
- Joe Dermer
- Bill Gould
- Gail Hashimoto
- Yvonne Linney
- Christian Picone

PACE Board of Advisors

- Jerry Matranga, Chair
- Edward Ball
- John Cheng
- Tom Crotty
- Paula Davis
- Maria Hermanussen
- Liz Pollard
- Dave Samuels
- Gregory Thomson

Support the 2008 PACE Gala: An Enchanted Evening

It's that time of year again! We are well on our way in the planning of the 7th annual PACE Gala and Auction, and we need your help to be successful. This year our theme is *An Enchanted Evening* and the gala will take place at a beautiful private residence in Atherton on a Sunday evening. Though the theme and location have changed, the mission remains the same.

Last year, with the help of many wonderful donors, sponsors and volunteers, we were able to hit our goal of raising \$150,000. Help us to be as successful this year.

Choose from a variety of ways to help support PACE at this year's Gala:

Becoming a sponsor

Help underwrite the cost of the Gala with your sponsorship. Sponsors receive benefits that include event tickets, advertisements in the Auction Directory,



PACE Board President, Kati Miller, and her husband, Mike Shea at the PACE 2007 Gala

acknowledgement at the event and on our website, and much more. Sponsorship starts at \$1,000.

Donating Goods or Services

Make a tax-deductible donation of an item to our live or silent auction.

Advertising in the Auction Book

Purchase advertising space in our Auction Book. For a reasonable price you can promote your business and show support for a cause that strengthens the community.

- \$500 Full Page Ad
- \$330 1/2 Page Ad
- \$225 1/4 Page Ad
- \$150 1/8 Page Ad

For more information and to make a contribution, please contact

Karen Kennan, Director of Development: 408-245-3400 or karenkennan@pacificaautism.org



PACE 2007 Gala live auction bidders



PACE Setter
1880 Pruneridge Ave.
Santa Clara, CA 95050

*A newsletter providing information on PACE programs and services.
Published and designed by Katie Flannery.
Editor: Karen Kennan
Contributors: PACE staff
www.pacificaautism.org*

PACE's mission is to provide high quality programs for individuals with autism/developmental disabilities so they may experience the satisfaction and fulfillment that accompany learning, self-expression, self-care, productive work and interpersonal and community experiences.

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SUNNYVALE, CA
PERMIT NO. 981